



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Dear Editor,

As a member of the school newspaper staff, I was aware of "our" choice of a name for the paper before most of the student body. I feel that it is necessary to voice my discontent.

It started out as just another Monday afternoon meeting, but soon, the pressure in the room became thick enough to turn coal into diamonds as we deliberated the future name for our paper. With few names from which to choose and the endless influence of a former staff member (bordering on intimidation), we "successfully" left the room with a new name...**Paladin**.

Anyway, what is a paladin and what could it possibly have to do with GHS or journalism, you ask? Your guess is as good as mine. I took the initiative to look this one up, and according to the dictionary (not the American Heritage Dictionary - sorry Mr. Connelly!), a Paladin is:

1. any of the twelve peers of Charlemagne's court.
2. a knight

I knew that a "knight" had little to do with a newspaper, so I proceeded to investigate the reference to Charlemagne. Not satisfied with the dictionary, I obtained the aid of the encyclopedia. The encyclopedia informed me, and I assume that encyclopediae don't lie, that Charlemagne was king of the Franks, and extended his domain until it included most of Europe. Although many have exaggerated Charlemagne's fight for the cause of Christ against Mohammed, he did fight the Saracens for 12 years. He also gained influence with the Pope, after promising his armed assistance whenever necessary.

It troubles me that we often avoid exploitative themes that refer to the Native Americans, but we condone a title that signifies a leader who subdued the Christianized Italian Saxons.

I also find it ironic that we purposely avoided a holiday theme for this issue due to the "religious pressures", when the very title of our newspaper symbolically insults all those religions other than Christianity.

I must admit that I was little help in the name-selection process when I voted for "High Times", but I felt that all the choices were ridiculous. At this point I would suggest that we either learn to live with our new "label", or we get more input from the student body in a new election. Whatever happened to school spirit?

My father suggested "The Student Voice" which is just as effective as any of the entries we received. Perhaps we must look to those who have more experience, when contemplating such important decisions.

Flabbergasted,

Jeremy T. Chrabascz
(Writer/Reporter/Student)

To the Editors:

We just wanted to make the editors of the newspaper aware of their job. Their job is simply to edit the articles in the paper. Is this that difficult to do. The newspaper comes out late in the month already. Would putting it off one more day make any difference. We don't think so. The problem that we encountered is that there were over 70 errors in this 12 page paper. That is more than five and a half errors per page. Some of the pages have little writing on them anyway. This is hard to believe but it's true. It isn't like these errors are hard to spot. We skimmed the paper and found this many. Some of the sentences don't make sense. They're either missing words or are just a fragment or run-on. (Ex. Kim Kreidler's article about J. Brigham) "As of this writing the Class Meet at Wickham Park in Manchester on Monday."

What does that mean?

Some other errors that were also obvious were position and Wethersfield. Position was spelled "positon" and Wethersfield was spelled "Whethersfield" and was later spelled correctly.

These were extremely obvious and could have been easily spotted. Our suggestion to the editors is to postpone the paper's publishing one more day and to spend that day or at least part of that day proofreading it. If you can't spend extra time putting out a quality paper then maybe you don't belong on a newspaper staff!

Sincerely

Paul Gatinella and Mike Falotico

P.S. Congratulations to Jeremy Chrabascz who in two articles had a combined total of 14 errors. Also congratulations to Glenn Inman who in all of his articles had no errors. Way to go Glenn!

ED -- The staff recognizes the need to edit more carefully and is attempting to establish a more rigorous routing of articles to achieve that end. It appears, however, that you are not aware of the full range of an editor's job, which includes much more than editing articles. You should also know that neither Kim Kreidler nor Jeremy Chrabascz typed any articles and neither was responsible for the errors. It was particularly confusing that your praise and your censure were aimed primarily at the same person, since your hero, Glenn Inman, was your villain, the editor-in-chief of that issue.

Incidentally, we published your letter exactly as written and thought that you might be interested in knowing that:

1. you missed a question mark at the end of your third sentence;
2. you missed a question mark at the end of your fifth sentence;
3. your use of "like" in the eleventh sentence is grammatically incorrect;
4. the words "They're" and "are" are redundant in the fourteenth sentence;
5. you have a number agreement problem in the fourteenth sentence;
6. you fail to indent at the beginning of your second paragraph;
7. the quote in your parenthetical example was written outside of the parentheses;
8. the sentence in which you complain about Kim Kreidler's fragment is a fragment;
9. you missed a comma after your closing;
10. your first paragraph contains more than one main idea.
11. your final paragraph is inconsistent in voice, referring to the editors in the third person and then in the second person.

This, according to your own math, renders your work significantly more error-ridden than an average page of our newspaper.

Most of the articles we receive contain errors similar to your own. We catch as many as we can in the context of deadlines which are difficult to meet. We cut and paste on a Saturday, go to print on a Monday and distribute on either a Tuesday or a Wednesday. We want as much "hot" news as possible, so many of the stories are not written until that Saturday.

Nevertheless, you are correct; there is significant room for improvement in the area of editing. We are striving for that.

You appear to be interested in the field of editing. You suggested that maybe we "don't belong on a newspaper staff." We'd like to suggest an alternative: maybe you do. If you have the fortitude to show up for the next meeting of the newspaper staff on Monday in room 132, you'll be welcomed.

Smoke Signals Rise At G.H.S.

by Michael Fournier

For the past several years, it has been a rule that no student could smoke on school grounds during school hours. It is also a rule that no student can leave school grounds during school hours without a note from their parents. Therefore, no student can smoke during school.

Before the smoking policy was implemented, students were in fact allowed to smoke on school grounds. Their smoking, however, was restricted to one section of the school. This section was located outside of the cafe where the cluster of trees are located.

Not permitting students to smoke is a gross injustice. According to state law, only people over 18 may purchase tobacco products, but any individual over 16 can utilize tobacco products. State law does not prohibit smoking on school grounds.

There are advantages to allowing smoking on school grounds. One is that the rest rooms will be free of smoke and able to be open all the time. Another advantage is that administrators and security officers will have more time to patrol the school grounds for other more serious infractions of the law.

Some restrictions must be implemented if students are to be allowed to smoke on school grounds. These restrictions should be

- 1) Only students over 16 should be allowed to smoke on school grounds,
- 2) Students are only permitted to smoke in a designated spot on school ground.

While the students are not allowed to smoke, teachers are, in fact, permitted. This double standard should be rectified by permitting students to smoke. It is my belief that the school administration should not impose its moral convictions on the students.

Ed - You must remember that almost half of our school population is under the age of 16. There is a questionable advantage in allowing students to participate in an activity that is both unhealthy and disgusting. Having a smoking section just promotes the use of tobacco products among teens, some of whom are under legal age.

Dear Editor,

I would like to respond to the letter written by Matt Powell that appeared in the last edition of the school newspaper. The article assailed the reputation of an outstanding Glastonbury High School coach, Jim Kearney, and obviously Matt did not investigate the record.

The year before Coach Kearney took over the Hockey team, the record was no wins and 20 losses. In their first year with Coach Kearney, with the same players, the team had nine wins and ten losses. From 1984 to 1989 the Hockey team was in five State Hockey tournaments. We participated in two quarter finals and one semi-final game. Glastonbury High School's Hockey team has been rated by the Hockey Night Boston poll as one of the top eight teams in Connecticut since 1984.

We missed last year's State tournament by the slim margin of a tie game with Conard. Coach Kearney's Division Two record is 87-49. After the 16-5 season in 1989-1990, we graduated 13 of 20 players and, unfortunately, no player with a goalie background has come out for the team, thus hampering our progress.

In addition, Coach Kearney coaches our Boys' Lacrosse team and has been recognized both nationally and statewide in 1990 as Coach of the Year. In the last three seasons, Glastonbury Boys' Lacrosse, under Coach Kearney, has won two CCC championships and amassed a 33-2 record. Kearney has been selected to coach the All State team four times and the North team in the Nutmeg games for the last two years. He has also been designated to coach again at the Nutmeg games next summer.

To the best of my knowledge, Glastonbury kids who go to a prep school go there to gain a prep school education; those who go to a parochial school go there for religious reasons.

I hope in the future Matt will research his topic before he writes an article and let the facts speak for themselves.

Sincerely,

Ray Niccolita

Director of Athletics

Freshman Swimming

Dear Editor:

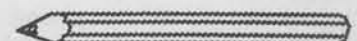
I think that the freshman swimmers don't have enough time to get ready. We have about 10 minutes or less to get ready. This means that we must walk around with soaking wet heads. Half the time we have to run to our next class. I know a lot of people who got sick from this. Those responsible should give us more time. If they gave us 15 minutes or a little less (12 or 13) that would be okay.

-Meaghan Cummings

Dear Editor:

I think that freshman swimming has no point whatsoever. In the beginning of the course, all we did was swim laps. We never actually learned any swimming techniques. Then after a few classes we played water games. I ask you what is so important about playing boring games when we could be learning interesting sports. If we must swim, why don't we learn something?

-Jennifer Way



Dear Editor,

I don't think that teachers or students realize how serious a problem smoking is at G.H.S. Rules have been established and punishments threatened, but they don't seem to be having much of an effect.

There is not a bathroom in the school that doesn't reek of smoke. Smoking is as casual as doing homework to some students.

I get on the activity bus and kids as young as sixth graders are asking for "butts" from their older friends. Smoking is a horrible habit to start that young.

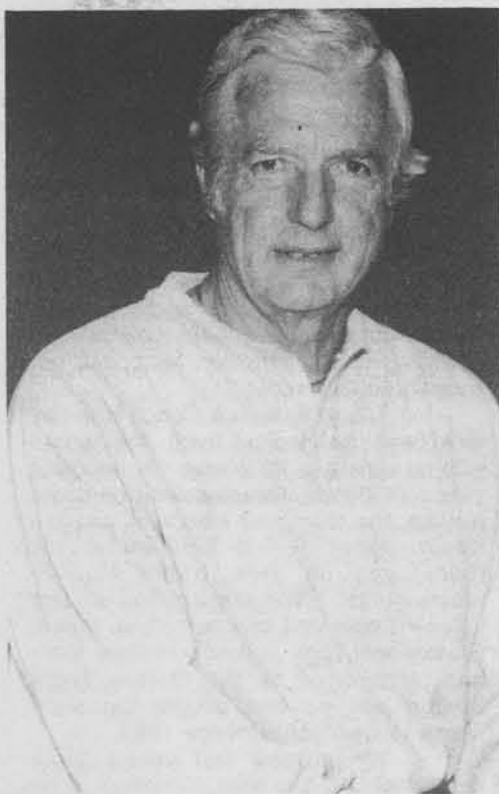
Everyone knows that smoking can result in cancer, and it also causes bad breath, stains teeth and ruins skin. Why does anyone do it?

Sincerely,

Debbi Arsenaux

SEXISM AT GHS

By Megan Stack



Friends Bid Farewell to Coach Grogan

By Ross Feldmann

A reception was held on November 10, at the Irish American Club for Coach Paul E. Grogan. Specifically, it was a reception to congratulate him on his retirement; a Retirement Testimonial it was called. Guests included Dr. R. Stephen Tegarden, superintendent of schools, Mr. Nicolletta, a close colleague of Grogan's, Paul Munns, a representative in the state house, and a number of friends and relatives. Indeed, it was an emotional evening with a number of tearful goodbyes.

On the program, the happenings of the evening were organized similarly to the sequence of events at a football game. At 6:00 P.M., there was the pregame warm-up which included the music of the GHS Jazz Band, directed by Bill Ericksen. At 7:00 P.M., there was the tap off, at which time they introduced the head table. In the first and second quarters dinner and dessert were served. The third quarter included several speeches from Grogan's "Cohorts and Cronies" in which several nice words were said about his career.

The fourth quarter, probably the most important, was Coach Grogan's speech. He spoke comparatively of the early days and the present, remembering a time when there was only one ball per gym class. He also spoke of the remorse he felt in saying goodbye and that he missed coming to school every day.

During the ceremony, Grogan received two resolutions; one from the town and one from the state. The resolutions, presented by Tegarden and Munns, included a recognition of Grogan's immense contribution and dedication to "the school system, fellow teachers, coaches,.... and the youth of Glastonbury." This goes without saying, for everyone acquainted with him knows what a thoughtful, kind, generous, and helpful person he is. They contained a congratulatory note on his retirement as well. Furthermore, several highlights of his career were recognized; for instance, the yearbook was dedicated to him in 1991 and he was inducted into the Explorers Hall of Fame. Additionally, he received a fully paid, week trip to Florida as a gift from the town.

Mr. Nicolletta later stated, "For the twenty-six years that I've worked with him, I've always respected his kindness and his uncanny ability to spot which students are suitable for specific positions of a sport.

What's in the future? We can all see him frequently as a substitute for gym classes for a number of years to come. He also plans on continuing his coaching in several sports.

Nevertheless, he will be missed. A great number of students knew and respected Coach Grogan. Surely everyone will be saddened by his leaving Glastonbury High School.

In this age of male/female conflict, the question exists: Is sexism a problem here at GHS? Granted, our generation is supposed to be the generation that is liberated from our parents' prejudices. But there are some indications that sexism is still an underlying problem.

One girl, who wants to remain anonymous, spoke of her experiences in an all male shop class. "It was horrible. There were always little demeaning comments. I was so alone in that class. After awhile, I made friends with a few of the guys, and now it's pretty cool, I guess. But that first month or so..." When the girl spoke to the teacher about the problem, he acknowledged it and apologized, but did nothing to ameliorate the situation. "He told me that he had hoped a girl in the class would calm it down, since it was always so rowdy. He said that it hadn't worked, and he was sorry. I was just crying."

This is just one instance, but does such discrimination extend to the classroom? By most accounts, the answer is no. Most students and teachers of both genders seem satisfied with the system. However, a recent national study has unearthed evidence that girls in American schools are less encouraged to succeed than boys. This is a leftover from the male-dominated eras from which the United States has recently emerged.

If anything, girls seem to dominate our school. In the graduating class, only six of the top twenty students in the graduating class are boys. And for the most part, female students hold more class and club offices. In general, girls in our school are more involved than boys. Is this because girls sense the sexism that is at the core of our school, and feel compelled to overcome it? The status of sexism at GHS is difficult to pin down. However, there are indications of underlying problems.

"For Openers" Well Under Way

by Nirad Jain

The GHS National Engineering Design Challenge (NEDC) team has been feverishly working on its solution to this year's problem dubbed, "For Openers." The object of this problem is to create a device that will enable its user to open and/or close containers commonly found at home or in the office.

While the problem seemed simple at first, additional factors made it more complicated. In addition to being safe, cost effective (under \$25.), user friendly, and visually appealing, the device should be able to be used in a physically limited state to gain bonus points. In order to fulfill the optional physically limited requirement, the device must be operated without the use of fingers.

With the aid of advising engineers Dr. Haight, Mr. Centolla, and technology teacher Mr. Jones, the team has worked diligently every Tuesday and Thursday from 6 to 8 p.m. for the past two months.

The team seems to have found a solution that satisfies all the requirements. It consists of a two part device which can be stored like any other kitchen appliance.

The team is now in the process of choosing a name for the device it has designed for the January 13 competition. A few choices are: The Grabmaster 2000, George, Officer Opener, Captain Hook, and Jimmy. But the team is open to any suggestions.

Last year's team was very successful, proceeding to the National Championships in Washington in D.C. with their long-reach grabbing device. This year's team, including president Merri Elbaum, vice-president Nick DiCarlo, secretary Karen Galinsky, treasurer Rob Bernstein, and the twenty-five others are aiming to follow proudly in their footsteps and maybe even surpass them. Good luck!



Students Overthrow the Power of Their Teacher

By Ross Feldmann

On Monday, November 23, the atmosphere in Mr. Cooper's third period European History class seemed normal as ever. Little did he or most of the students know that this class was about to take a major turn in its governing system.

The lesson for the past few weeks had involved the monarchical reign of King Charles II and the revolt of the parliament in the 1540's. Using this lesson, students Andrew Mitchell, Stella Choi, Shane Igo, and Nisha Shah organized a formal revolt against Mr. Cooper. Armed with warrants of arrest and death, several replications of medieval weaponry, a long list of grievances, and an extensive knowledge of English history, the students marched into class, chained their teacher, and took control.

The reaction was astounding. Every student came into class bellowing with laughter at the sight of their teacher tied up in chains. Mitchell, the leader of the revolt, felt that the timing could not have been better and that the reaction was excellent. He put together the rebellion for humorous reasons saying, "It was a stint in the spotlight (of the lesson)."

Mr. Cooper, having no former knowledge of this uprising, was both surprised and happy with the students' actions. Though nothing like this had ever happened before in any of his previous classes, he more or less expected it from such an enthusiastic class. He was most pleased with the fact that the students had used the knowledge they had picked up from the lesson.

After several minutes of cackling laughter and numerous jokes, the list of grievances was read. They were as follows:

- 1) Students should be allowed to drool on their desks while sleeping.
- 2) Mr. Cooper should discontinue his support for the New York Giants.
- 3) There should not be any more homework or tests in the future.

Obviously, these were not taken seriously, but all in good humor. As Mr. Cooper later said, "It was a nice change of pace for the class."

Later pictures were shot by Jessica Sawyer to preserve the memories of the joyous insurrection. Then the class quickly redirected their attention towards history. The revolt was behind them, but not forgotten.

Minority Needs in GHS

by Rashaan Williams

Do the minorities have any special needs at Glastonbury High School? If so, what are they? Which one is the most important? When my editor proposed to me these questions, it brought on about thirty seconds of complex thinking before I came to a definite answer to the first two questions.

Yes, the minorities do have special needs at GHS - too many of them to fit in one newspaper article. And all of them are important - too important for me to narrow it down just to one.

The final question provoked the most thought. What are they? To many people, this may seem like a simple question, but it left a blank look on many of the faces of the people who I asked it of. Not because they did not know the answer, but because they did not know where to start. This school, as far as the minority needs are concerned, is just like the American economy. You can not make one or two little changes and expect everything to turn around. You have to make three or four drastic changes, and hope and pray things change little by little over a period of time. The way things are going, the minorities' needs are not going to change one bit, but hopefully the "powers that be" will read this article and take a long look in the mirror. Since I do not have a whole newspaper to give a more comprehensive study, I will give three basic steps to change.

The first step to change is a more diverse history curriculum. In order to understand where you are going you have to know where you came from. The history classes do not let the minorities know where they came from. My American Government class is predominantly white, as are all the classes in G.H.S., but it still has a good proportion of minorities in the class. We learned about the white leaders of the past and the present like George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, George Bush, and Bill Clinton. The only minority "leader" we have learned about is Crispus Attacks, and I am still trying to figure what is his importance in American Government, or American history for that matter, when all he was was the first person killed in the Revolutionary War. He did not try to calm the people down and fight for peace, he did not put up a good battle, I do not recall him saying anything of any importance, and he did not do anything special for his people. All he did was get shot in a war to decide which country would enslave him and give him injustice. I fail to see the importance of that! Of all the great minority leaders, to pick him is a slap in the face to every minority in the class. And if a teacher can not fit any minority leaders into the curriculum or if there are not a lot of them in a particular area in history (which is a very lame excuse and almost a lie, but just to cover all bases) can't there be a Latin American and African American history class? There are more than enough students, and I know a number of students who would be happy to be in these classes.

The second step to change is more minority teachers. I know this is a predominantly white school and white community, but there is an increasing population of minorities in this school, and we should have minority teachers. We must have more role models and people we can relate to in our school because sometimes a white teacher can not relate to a minority child.

The third step to change is having an annual Cultural/ Ethnic Awareness Day. This would be the simplest and maybe the most fun step. We could have children of every background such as; Jewish, Mexican, Spanish, Caucasian, and African American come and represent their own respective nationalities. We could have food, costumes, and maybe even guest speakers from other countries to share all our

(continued on page 16)



Can The Food Drive Be This Good Next Year?

by Ross Feldman

Pictured here is Amy Kubachka helping count and organize some of the thousands of cans that were collected in this year's annual food drive.

Sarah Karwan of the Student Council stated, "I was pleased with this year's success." The total number of cans was 5350. Compared to last year's number of around 2000, and to East Hartford's total this year of 5100, it was indeed a smashing success. The food was brought to Greater Hartford Foodshare and will help thousands of hungry people all over Connecticut. The Student Council would like to thank all those who contributed.

Glastonbury 5350

East Hartford 5100

Continued from page 1
Holiday No-Show

display their holiday spirit taken away, than by having others display theirs. The majority of both the student and staff populations, at the high school at least, feel that the policy is inhibitive to the point where it defeats its original purpose.

While the memo does not instruct people not to wish others a happy holiday, or completely avoid mentioning religion/the holidays, it does put an end to the holiday parties that used to be held by various classes to increase holiday spirit/cheer, it also keeps teachers from decorating either the halls, their work rooms, or the classrooms with ornaments befitting the season. Regardless of what religion, Christian, Jewish, Islam, Buddhist, etc., no spirit can be displayed.

There are other solutions to this problem than the current existing policy. This solution is a bit like curing the disease by killing the patient. Why not motivate in a

positive direction and attempt to broaden the school curriculum in order to make equal representation of all religions a reality? People would then have a greater awareness and tolerance for other ideas, and no one would be offended by someone else's symbols. Teachers would be allowed to continue with their traditional 'Secret Santa' gift exchange instead of the dubiously titled "Secret Snowflake" program. And the school populations in general would enjoy a little more cheer, and a little more unity during the cold winter season when we need it most.

To the school board, please don't fix problems by eliminating the symptoms, because, just like venereal diseases, they keep coming back to haunt you. Making everyone aware of what's around them promotes a little harmony and would be far more beneficial. In this spirit, this writer wishes everyone a Merry Christmas, a happy Hanukkah, a Warm Id, Joyous Yule Tide, and a Magical Winter Solstice!

GHS MEETS PRISONERS

by Aaron Edwards

On Wednesday, December 16, inmates from the Carl Robinson rehabilitation center in Enfield visited Glastonbury High School, shared their stories, and answered questions.

As a part of a rehabilitation/educational program known as Get Smart, students from Jean Wells' psychology classes, and Debbie Clough's Law classes were treated to this interesting event.

The Get Smart program has many different purposes. For the inmates, Get Smart is a positive step toward rehabilitation. For students, the benefits are educational.

"The Get Smart program can, among other things, effectively deter students from a criminal lifestyle," Wells said.

For the first part of the two and a half hour assembly the inmates read aloud prewritten stories about their lives, and how they came to commit their crimes. Then they opened the floor to the students and administrators who were present, so they could ask questions.

The High School has been visited by inmates in the Get Smart program for many years.

"It has always been a very fascinating and informative event," said Clough, who, along with Wells has seen and heard from inmates often in her career. The two have visited many of Connecticut's better known correctional facilities.

The students anticipated another interesting meeting. Psychology student Keith Southergill said, "It is hard for many of us to understand the life of a convicted criminal. This is a great opportunity to learn more."

Post Election News

By Sandya Srinivasan

It has been said that the resumes have been and still are pouring into Little Rock, Arkansas by the minute. And why not? The Democrats have been waiting in the wings for twelve years, and there will certainly be a lot of shoes to fill for the next administration. The popular vote may have only been 43% for Clinton, 38% for Bush, and 19% for Perot, but Clinton swept the nation geographically taking thirty one states and 357 electoral votes, as opposed to Bush's eighteen states and 168 electoral votes.

Although Bush became especially nasty in the days counting down to November third, he did manage to bow-out gracefully, proclaiming on election night, "The people have spoken and we respect the majesty of the democratic system."

Clinton wasn't the only memorable victor Tuesday night; 105 new members of Congress were voted in, the most since 1949, without affecting the majority, which is still strongly Democratic. There were also many firsts, many having to do with women, making this year truly the year of the woman. Eleven women ran for senate and five won bringing the total to seven women, versus last year's three. Those victors were Illinois' Carol Moseley Braun, the first black woman Senator, California's Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer, and Washington State's Patty Murray. The current number of women in

Congress, twenty-eight, has increased substantially with the election of many, including New York's Nydia Velazquez, the first Puerto Rican female in Congress. Another first, Colorado rancher and Cheyenne tribe member, Ben Nighthorse Campbell, became the first Native American Senator.

Local winners include Democrat Chris Dodd for Senate, Democrat Barbara Kennelly, Democrat Mike Meotti, Republican Bob Bowden, and Republican Paul Munns, all for Congress.

Already working towards January first with his acclaimed transition team, Clinton, the third youngest President in the history of this nation, faces many challenges in the future. The biggest are the economy, looming bank problems, aid to Russia and neighboring countries, and national health care. Clinton has pledged to spend his first 100 days in office focusing on the nation's economic problems.

Many GHS students who were interviewed soon after the election, who had been undecided, seemed more accepting and impressed with Clinton and his transition team.

Many analysts have attempted to predict Clinton's four years already, but the results of his term in office remain to be seen. As President-Elect Clinton said in his acceptance speech, "We are all in this together, and we will rise or fall together."



FRANK R. SLADE
(203) 633-2311
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From the Editor's Desk

By Meghan Hoyer

This is the first issue of the paper that has come out with myself as the editor-in-chief. One of my jobs, as the new editor, was to go through the old issues of Common Sense and see what other people have done. I looked through a huge stack of papers, dating back to 1975, and found many articles, both interesting and funny. But one article angered me, and I choose this one to follow up on and tell you about.

The issue of the paper came out in October, 1975, and was mainly about Woman's lib. The front page article was an interview featuring Dr. Marshall and Ms. Williard, both of whom still teach at our school, and was titled "A Woman's Place".

In the article, the two teachers were both asked what their reactions were to the statement "A woman's place is in the home." Mrs. Williard responded by saying, "A woman's place is wherever that particular woman wants to be. In this day and age an individual has to fulfill themselves [sic] as best they can." Dr. Marshall, however, answered with, "Definitely, the woman's place is in the home...when did we start having troubles in America? As I see it, it was when the woman began to go out and work."

I was offended at this remark, and decided to follow up and ask Dr. Marshall what he thinks today, seventeen years later. I brought him the issue of the paper, which he claims he had a laugh over with Ms. Williard, and asked him what he felt about women working.

Dr. Marshall assured me that he meant no disrespect to women by this statement, but that he still thought that someone had to be home to care for the kids. Both he and Ms. Williard agreed that day care centers are not the best for the children because they "don't provide the close one-to-one contact that is necessary to nurture a small child." It apparently didn't occur that men might be as responsible for those kids as women.

In every issue, I will print something about articles that have appeared in past issues of the paper. I would like to hear your responses to this article and others that appear in the paper. You can respond in the newspaper boxes located in the school store and office.

Until next issue, I'd like to wish everyone a happy holidays and a New Year. I'd also like to wish everyone good luck on their upcoming midterms.

D.A.R.E. Role Model Day at Academy

by Elizabeth Clampet

On November 17, eleven high school students took a field trip to Academy school to take part in an educational question and answer type forum with the school's core 2 students. The students involved were Cara Bergstrom, Jack Martins, Nick DiCarlo, Jamie Whynacht, Lucas Penney, Meghan Hoyer, Sirkka Moriarty, Heidi Connely, Analee Richif, Nicole Pelletier, and Matt Albright. The students were picked by D.A.R.E.'s Agent Keyhoe and Officer Hyson to talk to the sixth graders about drugs and other aspects of high school life. They were hosted by science teacher Mrs. Sarratt, and spoke to her students as they came for each period.

The questions asked were of a diverse nature. The most popular question was "Are there a lot of drugs in high school?" Other questions included "What's tougher, sixth grade when you're 12, or high school when you're 16?" and "Do you get lost in the school?"

"I feel it was a good experience," Senior Nicole Pelletier said. "It was educational and informative for sixth graders to learn about high school. It was fun too." Sixth grader Brian Clampet said "I liked it because it was fun. I was curious, and they answered my questions about high school."

TOMAHAWK SPORTS

Tomahawks Feel Sting of Hornets in First Round

by Christopher Comerford

NOVEMBER 10-The Hall Hornets cut the girls field hockey team season short, by defeating them 2-0 in the first round of the State Tournament.

Hall attempted 10 shots in the first half alone, while Glastonbury had some difficulty generating its offense, taking only one shot throughout the entire game. Senior goalie, Missy Mooza, came up with 16 saves out of 18 shots, doing her best to keep the Tomahawks in the game.

Hall's first goal came 5:30 into the second half from Geri Saxe. The next goal was scored on a controversial play.

Hall's Leslie Porter attempted a shot that appeared to be blocked. However, the referees felt that senior Josie Paruta was standing inside the net when she blocked it, making it an automatic goal.

Mooza did an excellent job against the Hornet's offense, saving a perfect ten out of ten shots in the first half. In retrospect, the team should not be disappointed in their performance this season at all. They did a very good job and the future looks to be bright. Good luck to all of the graduating seniors who hope to play in college.

Profile: G.H.S. Gymnastics

by Sirkka Moriarty

As the winter sports season approaches, the members of the G.H.S. gymnastics team are beginning to perfect their moves. This year the team is hoping to rise to the top of the CCC West.

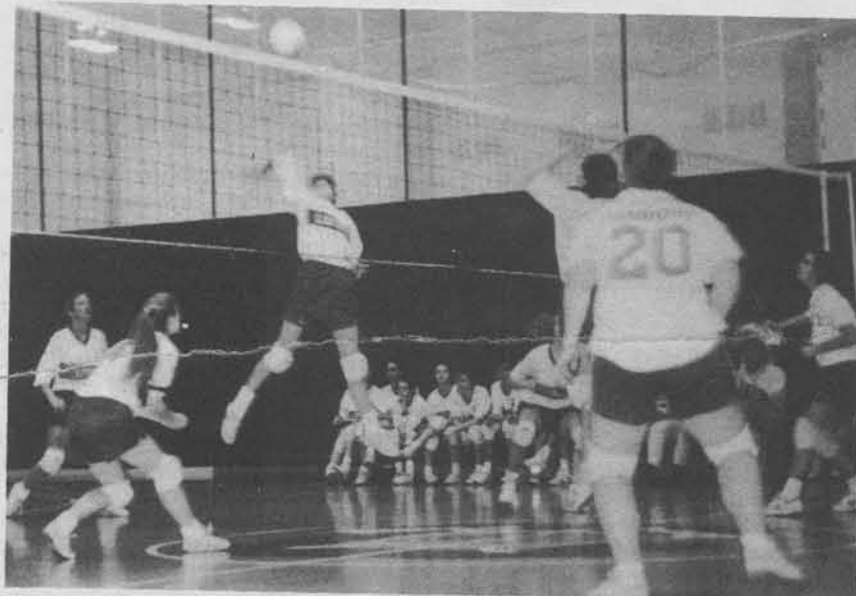
Led by coaches Ann Rotundo and Amy Tomlinson and captains Nancy Gabriel, Karen Crowley, and Claire Galeazzi, the girls gymnastics team has dedicated much of its time to preparing for the many meets this season.

Junior Becky Dressler says, "So far, everyone on the team seems to be getting along fine, and people are working hard."

The young team, composed of ten freshmen and ten upperclassmen, has been practicing every day, making up routines, braving the balance beam, and reaching for the high bar. When tri-captain Claire Galeazzi was asked for her main goal this season, she replied, "The team needs to work together to beat our rival, Wethersfield."

The gymnastic team's first meet is at home against Windham, December 29 at 6:30 at Academy School. Freshmen Laurie Lee and Carrie Backlund say that they are nervous about their first meet, but hope that their hard work and dedication pays off.

The gymnastics team is hoping that it will have many spectators this year. So, if you want to see high-flying, non-stop excitement this winter sports season, consider attending a home meet of the Glastonbury High School's excellent girls gymnastic team.



Senior Co-Captain Carla Berk goes up for a spike in a match against Danbury.

Girl's Volleyball Spikes Its Way Into State Tournament

Defeated by Holy Cross in Quarterfinals

by Jeremy Chrabascz

After the girl's volleyball team walked over Danbury, which was ranked 23rd in the tournament, by scores of 15-4, 15-3, 15-7, and qualified for a first round match against Fairfield on November 11th, the team went on to an impressive upset of seventh-ranked Fairfield by scores of 15-8, 10-15, 15-9, 15-11. In their next match against Holy Cross-Waterbury on Friday the 13th in Waterbury, Glastonbury was defeated in three straight games, 8-15, 12-15, and 6-15.

Holy Cross came out strong and faltered only in the second game when they allowed the Tomahawks to pull within 3 points of a victory. There were plenty of reasons on which to blame the loss; it was Friday the 13th, it was an away game, or it could've been a lack of supporters. But the truth is, the Tomahawks were beaten fair and square by the toughest competition they had faced all season.

Although the scores might indicate otherwise, there were many signs of the Tomahawks' abilities in the match. Captain Missy Roy's floor-pounding spike and Cheryl Burgess' trademark serve, for example, were as evident as they had been all season. The team clearly played to the best of their ability throughout the season, right up until the final serve of their quarterfinal match.

Neither the team nor the fans have any reason to feel disappointed in their finish as they surpassed last year's performance, while proving the polls wrong. The players should be congratulated and given a pat on the back for their hard work and excellent performance this season, and we should all thank Coach Diane Pintavalle for a team which continues to improve year after year. We also would like to wish all the departing seniors on the team an enjoyable and prosperous future. When addressing the team following their final match, Coach Pintavalle told them to, "...give yourselves a hand."

I attended 14 of the 21 matches and in doing so, I've accumulated a "number" of impressive statistics:

	KILLS	ACES	BLOCKS	DIGS
Total:	273	58	60	4.9
Average:	19.5	4.1	4.9	3.5
(Per Match)				
	POINTS FOR	POINTS AGAINST		
Total:	611	395		
Average:	43.6	28.2		
(Per Match)				

POINT DIFFERENTIAL (PER MATCH): 15.4 (IN FAVOR OF GHS)
CO-CAPTAIN CARLA BERK'S AVG KILLS (PER MATCH): 4.5
CO-CAPTAIN MISSY ROY'S AVG KILLS (PER MATCH): 8.5
JUNIOR VARSITY'S RECORD: 16-2

REGULAR SEASON RECORD: 13-5
POST-SEASON RECORD: 2-1
OVERALL RECORD: 15-6

FRESHMAN FOOTBALL STATS

Glastonbury	20	Newington	6
	34	Wethersfield	0
	14	Rockville	20
	16	Xavier	8
	6	Conard	12
	0	So. Windsor	6
	34	Simsbury	8
	20	Hall	6
	22	East Hartford	8
Final Record: 6-3			

Marshall Named Big East Player of the Week!

by Christopher Comerford

December 14-UCONN center Donyell Marshall was named the Big East player of the week after his sterling performance off the bench against St. John's. The 6'9" sophomore turned in a surprising performance scoring a career high 23 points, including a crucial three-pointer in overtime that gave UCONN the lead for their first Big East victory of the season, 74-72 in overtime. In the process he had 6 rebounds, 2 blocks, 1 assist, and 1 steal; he was 7-11 from the field playing an astounding 31 minutes.

Marshall was supposed to be seeing limited action due to his recent return from a hyper-extended knee, an injury he suffered on November 28 against the Perdue Boilermakers.

He also scored 12 points in an easy 65-38 victory over the Yale Bulldogs at the Hartford Civic Center. He also grabbed 6a rebounds and had three steals on route to the victory.

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HIGH HOPES FOR TRACK TEAM

by Jeremy Gordon

December 16-The Glastonbury track team opened its season by hosting a developmental track meet. Although scores were not kept, the Tomahawks finished quite well.

The first race was the 4x800 relay. Coach Peterson ran two teams in this race, with the team of Jason Brigham, Kelley Gilman, Mark Newey, and Jeremy Gordon finishing in first place. The girls 4x800 also finished well with a second place showing and a time of 12:30.27. The girls led for most of the race, but with their best runners split between two teams, they were unable to hold off East Hartford.

In the field events, Keith Chicione continued the Glastonbury pole vault tradition by clearing a height of 11'0", placing second. In the shot put, senior Steve Lucas placed third overall with a throw of 38'4.5". One of the new additions to the track team, Shawn Schofield, leaped to 6'0" in the high jump, claiming second place. Freshman Keith York also finished well. Coach Norling commented, "It's been a long time since I moved the bar up to that height for a Glastonbury athlete."

Between jumps, Schofield and Tim Meredith staked GHS to an early lead in the sprint medley. Dave Schwartz regained the lead in the last lap to win the race.

Glastonbury also finished well in the long distances when Jeff McCarthy and Gary Vrooman took first and second place respectively in the 3200 meter. Brandon Cochrane took first place in the 1600 with a time of 4:53.

In sprints, Bob Rossi was the top Tomahawk runner with a time of 5.85 in the 45 meter dash. Kathleen Cusik finished tops for the girls with a time of 6.75. Cusik was also second in the long jump. Leah Whynacht, who came in first, jumped a distance of 15'5".

The last event of the evening was the girls' 4x200 relay. Throughout the race the Tomahawks competed with East Hartford for first place. Stephanie Sterling, Lauren Faustman, and Jill Wagner ran a hard race. However, in the last lap Karen Pfau, running anchor leg, was defeated by a step in an exciting finish.

With such good team performance, a great season is sure to follow. Even against such tough competitors as Xavier, Weaver, and others, Coach Barbara Mathewson has high hopes for this year's team.



Girl's Basketball Teams Start Season Strongly

by Jennifer McQuilken

December 14- The girl's varsity basketball team blew away the East Catholic Eagles 63-22 for their first victory of the season.

Glastonbury took an early 15-0 lead in the first 4:37 of the game. Seniors Karen Heffernan, Carla Berk and freshman Kristen Penney contributed to this lead. Caitlin Hogan ended the quarter with a 3-pointer with 2 seconds remaining, giving the Tomahawks a 19-5 lead.

Jill Maggi opened the second quarter with a jump shot, and Heffernan followed with a steal and a layup to start the second quarter.

Penney hit a three pointer with 4:40 remaining in the half, followed by two 3-pointers from Hogan giving Glastonbury the lead at the half, 37-11.

Carla Berk opened up the second half with a baseline jumper making the score 39-11. Heffernan and senior Sara Shellington combined for the Tomahawk's next twelve points. Betsy Strickland made one out of two crucial foul shots with 10.4 second's remaining, increasing Glastonbury's lead to 51-18.

The final quarter went by quickly, with Glastonbury scoring another twelve points ending the game with a 41 point lead.

Heffernan led Glastonbury with 14 points followed by Berk with 11 and Kristen Penney with 9.

J.V. mraudes Eagles

Decmber 14-Glastonbury J.V. won their first game of the season with ease 58-17 over the visiting Eagles.

The Tomahawk's had the lead at the end of the first quarter, 10-5.

They increased their lead to 28-9, thanks to sophomore Katrina Flad who made a layup with two seconds remaining in the second quarter.

Sophomore Amy Leon started Glastonbury's 12-4 run with a jump shot in the third quarter, giving Glastonbury a 40-13 lead at the end of the third quarter.

Sophomore Jackie Jones scored six points for Glastonbury in the final quarter, while sophomore Kate McGrail hit a jumper at the buzzer.

Freshmen girls win first game

The girls freshmen basketball team clobbered Windsor 36-9 for their first victory of the season.

Freshman Dana Merrick led the team with 7 points and Meredith Skoglund was right behind her with 6 points.



According to Coach Mehler "The players have the desire to say that they *are* that good and don't have to prove it to anybody."

(TOP ROW): Carla Berk, Sarah Shellington, Karen Heffernan
(BOTTOM ROW): Kristen Veach, Jill Maggi

Girls Basketball Hopes to Repeat League Title

By: Jennifer McQuilken

Five returning seniors led by senior captin Karen Heffernan look for their second league title in as many years. The year's team looks as strong as last year's and could possibly be stronger. Karen Heffernan commented "There's more depth in the bench and many good underclassmen." One of these is Kristen Penney. She said that they are starting to become a team.

Mehler would like to again claim the league title, and get to the championship game. Although these are his goals he doesn't feel as though there should be pressure on the players. "The players have the desire to say that they are that good and don't have to prove it anybody." Karen commented that she feels a little more pressure this year.

RUNNING INTO THE HOLIDAYS

by Megan Stack

Glastonbury kicked off the holiday season Sunday, December 6, with the annual Santa's Run. Nobody seems to remember just how long the Santa's Run has been happening, but one thing is for sure--it has come to mean much more than an ordinary road race. "It's a tradition, like the Applefest," commented one volunteer, "It's just one of those things that happen in Glastonbury every year."

The GHS gym, the registration area for the race, was packed with a variety of characters. The serious runners were easy to pick out, with their spandex and sweatbands. Surprisingly, though, these made up a minority of the "runners." The rest were made up of costumed people of all ages, children on roller blades, and even babies in their strollers. The costumes ranged from Mrs. Claus to a snowplow. "I'll definitely run a lot slower this way," commented one runner in costume, "but it doesn't really matter. The whole thing is just for spirit, anyway. You know, the whole Christmas thing."

"This is just a fun thing for us," declared a mother with two small children. "We walk it. The kids just love it." All in all, the Santa's Run was, as it always has been, a great way to get into the holiday spirit.

GIRLS SOCCER SUFFERS TOUGH LOSS IN STATE SEMIS

By Douglas Pfeifer

FARMINGTON- Glastonbury cruised through the first two tournament games against Bristol Eastern and Danbury in November, but then had to oppose a team who beat them twice earlier this season. With the weather cold and cloudy Glastonbury lost 2-1 to #1 ranked Simsbury.

In the beginning of the game, Glastonbury started out strong, not letting their nerves get to them. Five minutes into the game, Glastonbury scored the first goal.

Valerie Wade kicked the ball upfield, from well inside midfield, to Nicole Posillico, who faked the defender out and carried it up field. From there, she cross-passed it to Kari Juncker in front, who took the pass and kicked it over goalie Courtney Nixa's head. Glastonbury cheered with confidence and felt that they could beat the number one team in the state. Simsbury killed the excitement five minutes later by scoring.

Mandy Ebstein carried the ball down the left side of the field, and when she was in the corner, made a perfect pass to Kate Townsley in front, who headed it in. That made the score 1-1. Glastonbury kept their heads up and continued to play hard through the end of the half.

Well into the second half, Simsbury struck again and made the score 2-1. Tammy Barnes took the loose ball at the 18 yard line and took a shot that snuck by the goalie, Christen Veach, when she slipped in the goal box. Most teams would have given up, but the T-hawks didn't. Glastonbury had a chance when Kari Juncker was in front, ready to shoot it past Nixa, but she was tripped up by a Simsbury defender. Glastonbury thought there should have been a penalty kick, but unfortunately they didn't get that call.

Christen Veach said about the game, "We had a good chance to win the game, but things didn't go our way." Christen Veach played an excellent game that kept the score close. At one point, Barnes kicked the ball over Veach's head, but she jumped up and punched the ball. It hit the post and came back down to her.

"It's tough to lose such a big game," Valerie Wade commented, "but we had a great season." Glastonbury ended up with a 13-4 record and an eleven game winning streak.

Rivals Blank Tomahawks

by Megan Stack

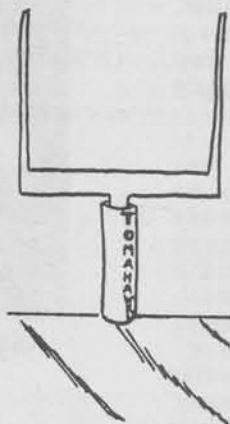
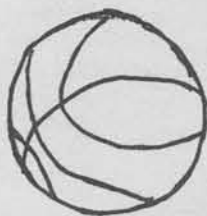
Nov 26-East Hartford High edged out the Glastonbury Tomahawks Thanksgiving Day in a tough defensive game.

East Hartford broke away early, as Jason Bedard scored the only touchdown of the day on a four yard run. Kevin Moore, East Hartford's quarterback, then ran the ball for a two-point conversion, making the score 8-0.

The rainy weather, which fluctuated from a lethargic drizzle to a steady downpour, was an important element in the game. Glastonbury suffered five fumbles, but recovered them all. In the second quarter, junior Ryan McDonnell recovered a key fumble for Glastonbury on the five-yard line. McDonnell later recovered a key fumble in the fourth. During the second quarter, GHS fought to Hall's two-yard line, only to lose the ball when Chris Angeli slipped in the mud and fumbled.

Glastonbury defense was excellent, and did their best to keep the Tomahawks in the game. Center John O'Keefe showed strength in his solid blocks. Senior captain Joe DeLuca had several incredible tackles, and retrieved an important fumble. Senior Dave Cirilli also came through for the Tomahawks with two key interceptions. At the conclusion of the game, senior Erick Wright was named Most Valuable Player. Wright has rushed over 1000 yards this season.

Despite this disappointing loss the Tomahawks have something to look forward to next season.



Continued from page 1
Rookie Team...

why Glastonbury has a rookie team unlike many schools. "Rookies are the foundation of the volleyball program at GHS and serve as a feeder system much like that of the minor-leagues. It is for players who haven't been exposed to competitive volleyball and can learn the skills, rules, and play competitively instead of benching it like they would at many other schools." Currently, there are 6 rookie teams in existence in the CCC West.

When asked to explain the team's remarkable performance this season Coach Lewis said "They're a very talented and motivated group." Coach Lewis also explained that "When practice began in August, I was apprehensive but by our last match the team had progressed so far that it was hard to believe they'd only been playing volleyball for two months." As modest as Coach Lewis may be, it is obvious that such progression would not be possible without the aide of some great coaching.

I asked Coach Lewis to point out any of the key players who helped lead the team and she responded "I wish I could mention everybody because

I'm so proud of them all." However, she did tell me that the team's best spikers were Laura Parente and Christie Pratt. She also said that the most consistent servers were Stephanie Novakoff, Hope Forsthofer, Jenn Blessing, and Nicole "Ace" Roy. Coach Lewis made sure that I knew, however, that "No one individual stood out." Coach Lewis was able to promote two players to junior varsity for the last two weeks of the season due to the spaces made available from those who had moved up to varsity. Those two players were Laura Parente and Meaghan Cummings.

Coach Rhonda Lewis and the junior varsity Coach Steve Geryk are both looking forward to tryouts next summer. They expect many of the rookies to move up to junior varsity.

SWIMMERS SLAM NOTRE DAME

by Megan Stack

December 19-Tomahawk swimmers, led by captains Matt Snow and Nick DiCarlo, proved their worth as they crushed Notre Dame with a score of 104-74.

The meet opened as the team of Jeff Mitchell, Dave Shea, Greg Frese, and Caury Bailey took second place in the medley relay. The situation only improved from there, with a plethora of best times and victories for the Tomahawks.

Dave Shea, Shane Igo, and Caury Bailey (in that order) swept the 100 breaststroke event. Jeff Mitchell won the 100 backstroke with a time of 1:03. This is a lifetime best, and qualified Jeff for states.

The Tomahawks went 1-3-4 in five events, including 100 back, 100 free, 100 fly, 200 IM, and 200 free. Senior captain Matt Snow took first place in both 200 IM and 100 fly. Jerry Papenhausen, who won both 200 and 500 free, was described by coach Susie Hoyt as "phenomenal." Sophomore John Cole surprised both his coach and team with incredible drops in his times.

Although Hoyt was pleased with the win, she was even happier with the times. "To me, who wins is not nearly as important as how hard you try and what your times are," she commented. "I don't even pay attention to the score. In the end, if you win, it's like an added bonus, and if you lose, hey, somebody's got to. If you try your hardest, then you're a winner anyway, in my eyes."

Hoyt is not quite sure what to make of this year's team yet. "It's so early to have definite goals yet," she commented. "I have some very specific goals in mind for individual swimmers, but we haven't really been here long enough for me to have goals for the whole team. They definitely show a lot of promise. And I'll tell you something else-- Matt and Nick are two of the best captains Glastonbury will ever see. I guess what I'd really like to see is good times."



(ABOVE): KEITH BERQUEST

Tercentenary not a Celebration for Girls Basketball

by Christopher Comerford

December 19-The girls basketball team played host to last year's champions, Southington, in part of Glastonbury's Tercentenary celebration, losing 67-42.

Senior Karen Heffernan led Glastonbury scorers with 13 points, senior Carla Berk was right behind her with 10. Although they came out strong, they looked lethargic at times.

Glastonbury's Carla Berk won the opening jump ball followed by Shellington and Berk who each scored a basket, giving Glastonbury a quick lead, their only one of the game. Southington then went on to an impressive 11-0 run making the score 11-4. The run was broken by freshman Rachel Balloch, who had four points for the afternoon. The first quarter ended with Southington ahead 19-8.

The Tomahawks came out scoring four points pulling them within 11 points. Thanks to the sometimes aggressive play of Heffernan and senior Kristen Veach, Southington was outscored 15-13, pulling within nine points. Unfortunately, that is the closest they came for the rest of the game. The first half ended with the score 32-23.

Southington saw the lethargic side of Glastonbury in the third quarter, outscoring them 15-9. A six point run at the end of the quarter did not help either, leaving the score 47-32 going into the fourth quarter.

Southington came out aggressively to start the fourth quarter continuing their run making it 11-0, practically putting the Tomahawks away 53-32. Balloch made a jumper, ending Glastonbury's scoring drought. Glastonbury pulled back within 9, but it was all downhill from there. Southington just kept pulling away, increasing their lead to 17 at one point.

"They were much more organized than we were. Our shots weren't falling, and if your shots don't fall, you can't win," said Veach.

"Our foul shots weren't going in, and we took too many fouls," said Heffernan.

There were three Tomahawks who were in foul trouble; Heffernan, freshman Kristen Penny (who scored seven points), and junior Nicole Poscillico each had four fouls while Glastonbury had a total of 23 fouls while Southington had 25, and one player who fouled out.

The girls have to forget this game and stay focused on today's game at home against South Windsor at 3:30.

Profile: Keith Berquest

by Jen McQuilken
 and Damian Beurer

Keith Berquest believes in this year's basketball team. "It's a lot better than the teams in the past. We have better players, and with them come consistency." He's been playing for four years with Coach Tony Cabekio. Coach Cabekio's techniques have improved, and his style has changed for new players. Keith is confident that this year will be the best since 1969. (That was the last year G.H.S. won the basketball state championship.)

Keith has been playing basketball for eleven years. He started in The Glastonbury Basketball Association when he was seven. He has been on the Connecticut Select team, a team sponsored by L.A. Gear, for two years. He has played against New York, Ohio, and Boston.

Keith is interested in a college with an athletic program. Some of the colleges he's looking at are Ithaca, Bridgewater, Springfield, and Quinnipiac. He would like to play in basketball in college. Although he dreams of playing professionally, he has doubts because he knows the competition is very tough.

His older brother Everett was his inspiration. Everett stopped playing basketball in high school and took up lacrosse. He presently plays lacrosse at Marist, a division 1 school.

Keith's idol is Shawn Kemp. "He's nasty and raw. He's extremely interesting to watch. And his techniques are excellent."

In his spare time, Keith likes to work with kids. He hopes to pursue a career in athletic training or physical therapy. We wish him luck!

Testosterone Invades The Cheerleading Squad

Since the beginning of time, cheerleading has been a female dominated "sport"...but now there's a new skirt in town.

Their voices have deepened, but our winter cheerleaders are not on steroids! When attending the various winter sporting events, you may notice some more muscular cheerleaders than there have been in previous years.

This "revolution" started when Tyler Vorenkamp and Marc Bousquet successfully became the first guys on the fall cheerleading squad. This winter there are three male cheerleaders performing what they have dubbed "crotch grabs". We welcome the new edition, however, because we feel cheering is more effective with those masculine basses. We also feel that this breaks down the stereotype of the blond flake who has only the ability to cheer for her big, muscular boyfriend.

Who knows, maybe someday we will have all guy cheerleading squads for all girl sports.

... but now
 there's a new
 skirt in town!



Gymnastics Victory Falls Short

by Daniel Carter

December 19- The gymnastics team fell short of victory over Farmington, by a mere 2.7 points. The score was 131.3-128.6.

At the half point of the meet the junior varsity team had a small lead but unfortunately could not hold onto it.

The winners in each event for Glastonbury were: junior Rachel Burt for vaulting, frosh Karen Swain on the balance beam, senior Claire Galeazzi and frosh Carrie Backlund in the floor exercises, and frosh Kara Kray on the uneven bars.

The team has high hopes for this season and everybody at Glastonbury High School is hoping that those goals are met or even surpassed by the gymnastics team.

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Art Attack

Cinema

"Aladdin"

**** 1/2

As I entered the cinema to see "Aladdin", one thought was in my mind: this is not "Beauty and the Beast"; you don't have to like it. Already, I had heard enough rave reviews to have me dreading the prospect of reviewing it objectively. As the movie drew me into its plot, however, I forgot all misgivings, and realized a simple fact: this was the finest animated film I had ever seen.

Disney has reached a new standard with this tale of a lamp, a desert kingdom, and the adventure of a desert street denizen. Aladdin, the aforementioned urchin, is the center of the plot. He roguishly bounds through the streets and bazaars in his perpetual quest to keep "one step ahead of disaster." His only ally is a loyal, kleptomaniacal monkey named Abu. One day in the marketplace, his life is changed when he rescues a girl who later turns out to be the Princess Jasmine. Jasmine, fed up with the royal pains of royal life, has departed the palace after being told she will be forced to marry a prince. Unbeknownst to either, the evil vizier Jafar is plotting to steal the crown. The plot gets complicated after that, but it keeps you on the edge of your seat for a full hour and a half.

Aladdin is a hero of a different color, not afraid of a little deception or larceny, honorable at heart, a true "diamond in the rough". Jasmine is a heroine of the nineties, a strong female lead who controls her own destiny and her own mind. Jafar is an unusual Disney villain, elegantly evil and psychologically complex. Other memorable characters include a magic carpet with an attitude, the senile sultan, and Iago, the raucous parrot who is allied with Jafar.

Despite the fine cast of animated characters, the show is stolen by the Genie, a huge blue creature whose voice is supplied by Robin Williams. Williams makes the movie, with his hilariously hyper routines matched perfectly by the lightning fast animation. Williams alone makes the movie worth seeing.

The music for "Aladdin" was the final creation of Howard Ashman,

the lyricist of "The Little Mermaid" and "Beauty and the Beast", who died of AIDS in 1991. The music, which was co-created with longtime partner Alan Menken, is spiced with Arabian flair and dynamic beats. There's even the one requisite love song, "A Whole New World", a better than average song that still turns out to be just a bit too saccharine.

The animation is spectacular, with dizzying sweeps and pans. Computer animation creates spectacular "portrait" backgrounds in certain scenes. The animation is especially good in the flying carpet scenes, where you have to be careful to remember that it's only a movie.

In conclusion, I would highly recommend this movie to people of all ages. Aladdin is not the kind of movie that's just for kids.

-Thomas Hine

X Does It's Job

"Malcolm X"

Surely everybody knows by now that Spike Lee's "Malcolm X" is the official "Big Epic" of the year. Of course, this genre, which has always presented itself as "High Cinema", is really only different from the "Terminator 2" genre in one respect: this one wins Academy Awards. It's somewhat disappointing to see a director as complex as Lee put out this sometimes tiresome four hour biographical epic. However, I am being a bit unfair, because this is quite a good film.

Of the many other films along the same lines, the one it most resembles is "Lawrence of Arabia". Like that film, "Malcolm X" examines the mental state of it's subject, more than just telling the "story" of his life.

As Lee tells it, Malcolm went through three major stages. The first transition is the biggest flaw of the film. While in his early twenties, Malcolm goes to jail for robbery. Until then he is a smooth, but crude type crook, with hardly a classy bone in him. Then, in prison, he is educated by a militant member of the Nation of Islam. Of course, Malcolm made this transition in real life, but the way the film presents it, he no longer has a single character trait in common with his old self. For instance, the sleazy Malcolm was a womanizer, the new Malcolm is pathetically shy around women. It makes little sense.

The second transition, however, is beautifully handled. When Malcolm is an idealistic militant, he is betrayed by the Nation of Islam. Malcolm's switch to a cynical yet determined equal-rights activist is entirely believable, and painful to watch.

Visually, the film is at its most interesting at the beginning. Only in the first hour or so does Lee make his trademark use of bright, almost comic-strip colors, as well as his show-off mise-en-scene.

Overall, however, the last hour of Lee's film is probably the best. Genuine suspense, rare in movies like this, is built as the Nation of Islam, the CIA, or whatever "Evil Establishment Group" is responsible, terrify Malcolm and his family. And the climax is great. Malcolm abandons all hope of enlightening the masses or surviving and finally decides to let himself be assassinated to keep his family safe. It's strangely, but beautifully cathartic.

Overall, I'd say that anyone with the time should see this movie. But, do not expect to come out enlightened. After all, like Oliver Stone's "JFK", this is basically a propaganda film. But there's no reason why a propaganda film can't be enjoyable when it's as well done as "Malcolm X" is.

-Trey West

Key To Star System {When Used}

- ***** A classic
- **** Excellent
- *** Good
- ** Mediocre
- * Bad



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Dracula

*** 1/2

All right, I'll admit to it. I went into this movie expecting to like it. I am, after all, an avid fan of both Stoker and Coppolla. The film turned out to be disappointing when compared to its potential worth, however enjoyable an interpretation it was.

The movie begins with a melding of literature and history: the attachment of the story of the Rumanian despot Vlad the Impaler to Stoker's material. Although the fourteenth century Rumanian prince is believed to have caused the Draculas to have their bloody reputation, Vlad's gruesome saga was never mentioned in Stoker's novel. But Coppolla directs the first sequence with a gothic bloodthirst that later pervades the entire film. Gary Oldman is appropriately two-sided as a butcher of men who kills for God, and then denounces him after his love, played by Winona Ryder, commits suicide. The venue then switches to nineteenth century Transylvania, and the beginning of Stoker's material.

Keanu Reeves is anemic as Jonathan Harker, the young British businessman who is unwillingly drawn into the Count's life. As the latter-day Count, Oldman is appropriately dark and cultured, but loses himself in a thick Rumanian accent. Oldman's performed occasionally lagged, but came to a magnificent climax at the movie's finale. The movie swiftly progresses to London, where the remaining characters are introduced, and the plot reaches fruition.

Winona Ryder delivers one of the movie's best performances as Mina Harker. Her progression from innocent with dark thoughts to creature of the night is accomplished with great finesse and much power. Anthony Hopkins also does excellently as the vampire hunter Dr. Von Helsing. However, his gruff appearance and raw but well-styled performance may shock some devotees of "Silence of the Lambs".

With the exception of Tom Waits as the insect-eating Renfield, none of the other performances were beyond the level of mediocre. Sadie Frost moaned and squealed her way through the role of Lucy without ever

adding an inch of depth to her character, and her three suitors were nearly indistinguishable.

The film was the most spectacular to watch that I've seen all year. Magnificent and sweeping cinematography, combined with stark and gothic sets and flamboyant costuming, gave "Bram Stoker's Dracula" a look that was most definitely all its own. However, if you are averse to the sight of blood or violence, you should avoid this film, for its excellent visual style makes the huge amount of graphic violence seem all the more real.

My final impression of the movie? I liked it a lot, but it could have used a quick script rewrite, a bit of recasting, and an editor who was sympathetic to the fact that most people haven't read the novel. But beyond these shortcomings, I would recommend this film. But two pieces of advice: read the novel first, and see it while its still at the theaters. "Bram Stoker's Dracula" is the kind of movie that looks better on the big screen.

-Thomas Hine

Wenders' "End" is Breathtaking

"Until the End of the World"

Late last year the great German director Wim Wenders released his latest film "Until the End of the World". It was by far the most costly film of his career, and probably the most costly art-house film of all time. It made approximately three million dollars in America and disappeared. True, it did far better in Europe than here, but that didn't stop it from being one of the biggest financial flops of all time.

The fact that nobody saw it is a tragedy, because it's a great film. What would be even more of a tragedy is if it destroys Wenders. Wenders arose out of the German New Wave of the late 70's, which also gave birth to such geniuses as Werner Herzog and Rainer Fassbinder. All of Wenders' films are really travellogs. His films almost inevitably concern protagonists stricken with existential angst who set out on trips they hope will bring self-enlightenment. At their worst his films can be depressing and dull, but his best films such as "Alice in the Cities" and "Paris, Texas", are like watching the Travel Channel made Shakespearean.

"The End" has just been released on video and it is among his greatest films. Sadly, it has been cut down from its theatrical length of three hours to two and a half. Still it is an amazing experience.

It revolves around a troubled wanderer played by William Hurt. The character is a cross between Wilhelm Majstral and Luke Skywalker. It is 1999 and Hurt has stolen a newly invented camera prototype. The camera traps images that allow blind people to see temporarily. Hurt is traveling to all the great cities of the world so his mother can see his images. Another wanderer falls instantly in love with him and they continue the journey together. Her British lover becomes insanely jealous and

The fact that nobody saw it is a tragedy, because it's a great film!

starts following them both, as do several bounty hunters out for the reward on Hurt's head.

The film is like "Star Wars" would have been like if it had been directed by Michelangelo Antonioni. The special effects are marvelous but they are one of the things you notice least. Wenders has an amazing ability to communicate a sense of place through cinematic terms. Every city, and there are many of them, is shown to us in a way film locations rarely are, even though the film is never in any city for longer than ten minutes. The ending is a bit corny but it is strangely, and undeniably effective. There are great performances like those from William Hurt and the great Max Van Sydow, too.

The movie does falter in places. There is a needless ten minute episode where the characters get addicted to images of their own dreams. It comes off sophomoric and narcissistic, but ends as quickly. Also, Wenders, like many of the German New-Wavers is too much in love with his own Mise-en-scene. But, one is more than ready to forgive these flaws for what the rest of the film has to offer. It is a must see on video.

-Trey West

Music



Roadkil Demo 93

This recently released tape struck a lot of interest among students. It has definitely been a long time since music fans have heard local music, especially within the school. There's always that certain feeling one gets when listening to a band that he or she knows. These four students have brought back that warm feeling by releasing their 1993 Demo.

Roadkil consists of Rocco Harvey, vocals, Aaron Malouin, bass guitar, Paul Tourville, guitar and back-up vocals, and Andy Heley, drums and percussion. The demo contained music that was written, arranged, and produced in the ever-so-popular garage at Rocco's house. The recording was done on a Yamaha four track which they were able to rent from Riccardo's Music Center. This obviously did not give them the quality of a studio, but considering their limited recording equipment, the tape came out quite nicely.

Malouin, Tourville, and Heley have been fooling around with music together for about a year. Harvey was inducted into the group a few months ago. With this full band appearance, they took on a much more serious attitude. The idea for recording came out of the blue during a practice session. In all, it took about two months to put together the music and a mere day to record.

The music immediately defined itself as hard core by their first song "Get Um While Their Fresh." It was slightly reminiscent of the late sixties/early seventies heavy metal band Black Sabbath, but it fit nicely with the Black Flag groove. The vocals truly came right out of the punk era and were slightly similar to those of Ministry or The Dead Kennedy's. Most of the songs were much like this, including "Unwanted" and "Pumpkin Pie."

The themes presented in the music were quite intriguing-- there weren't any, at least, no comprehensible ones. However, the plots did raise an eyebrow or two. For instance, "Pumpkin Pie" was about the demise of a cat that was killed in a collision with a green truck (Pumpkin Pie just seemed to fit in). "The Ice Cream Man" was a story-like tale of two kids, Rocco and Andy, and their adventures with an ice cream truck on a hot summer day. I found it interesting that they could switch from a Mother Goose-like fairy tale to a hard-core, punk narrative.

This wonderfully metallic album had the shortest song ever recorded. Though printing the title would be immediately turned down by my editors, I can say this: The PMRC would love it.

To top off the tape, Aaron shows his expertise in "Is U My Baby?" Along with the exquisite walking bass, it also had the talents of Andy in a drum ditty at the end.

The tape is surely a success and I strongly suggest you buy it. It can be obtained for the low price of \$3.00 from any of the members or by sending a self addressed mail order to:

Roadkil
c/o Rocco Harvey
404 Neipsic Road
Glastonbury, CT 06033

-Ross Feldmann

Madrigals are a hit at Angelos!

by Christopher Comerford

December 10-The Glastonbury High School Madrigal Chamber Choir turned in a magnificent performance for the Woman's Club last night at Angelo's restaurant.

They also performed Sunday night at Buckingham Church, but it was obvious that it was their first performance and that they were a little nervous. There are many new members to the ensemble this year, with many of last years members graduating.

This years combination is a good mix of sophomores, juniors, and seniors, which is good for now because they have students with experience and singers for the future.

Ms. Lizbeth Davis is the musical director of the group which is composed of: fourth year member Daniel Maganelli '93, second year member, Steve Carlstrom '93, second year member Ruben Muriente '93, second year member Chuck Cusson '93, first time member Thomas Hine '93, second year member Christopher Comerford '94, first year member Jason Fanning '94 and first year member Benjamin Hollister '95. For the women, second year member Beth Naomi Rinehimer '93, second year member Meg Peck '93, first year members Lynda Vrooman '93, Kayce Davis '93, Sheila Harvey '93, Allison Monaco '93, Michelle Nicol '93, and Betsy Paulson '93, Jamie Tyrol '94, Jennifer Jenkins '94, Laura Ferrall '95, and Lauren Frey '95.

Not only are all of these people in Madrigals, but they also are required to be in Concert Choir. The Concert Choir will have their first performance on Wednesday, December 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium. With them will be the orchestra and Opus 1 (which is the equivalent to the Madrigals for choir), in addition to Madrigals. A special appearance will be made by the Glastonbury Chorus which is made up of people from the community, of all ages, with the Concert Choir on a combination song by Mendelsson called "Heilig".

Bobby

by Rashaan Williams

Bobby Brown is back better than ever with his latest album "Bobby". This album is one of Bobby's best album (second only to "Don't Be Cruel"). On this album Bobby Brown hooks up with big name musicians such as :L.A.Reid and Babyface, Be Be Winans, Daryl Simmons, and Teddey Riley.

The album starts off with about 15 seconds of the prelude from "Don't Be Cruel"(Bobby's last album) which took me off guard. So then I thought it was going to be a remix off his last album, but it didn't happen. All off the sudden, a noise as if somebody had jerked a record off of the record player, came over my radio. Then Bobby's smash hit, "Humpin' Around" abruptly started playing.

The album has a variety of slow and fast songs and it never loses pace. From "Humpin'Around" to "CollegeGirl" this is a good album. Both the first and the second side keep you bobbing in your seat and dancing on your feet.

I recommend this album to any one. It is a combination of R&B, pop, rap and a little Gospel. This album is definitely slammmmmm!

BROKEN NINE INCH NAILS

rating: ****

This may come as a surprise to some people, but Nine Inch Nails is not a group. Nine Inch Nails is twenty-six year old Trent Reznor, one man, who plays guitar and produces industrial music. On tour, he has a band, but they have nothing to do with the songwriting or album-making process. The band Nine Inch Nails is a performing entity, one that you see on stage, but do not hear on album.

Therefore, this entire album, from the songwriting to the vocal tracks to playing the instruments to producing was all done by one man. I find that amazing.

Reznor's material is incredible, too - heavy stuff, but with valid messages and meanings. Of course, they are written and conceived with only the purest hate in mind, but something else shines through, something like a plea for help, or at times even an unfathomable sadness and hopelessness.

Broken, Nine Inch Nails's second album, is different in several ways from **Pretty Hate Machine**, their first release. It's harder, faster, and has plenty more feedback and background noise. At some points, the layering of noise tracks is so thick that you can't even tell Reznor is singing, not to mention what he's singing. This album has more of a heavy metal sound than **Hate Machine**, and is less poppy. It's definitely good listening if you want to work out some stress.

At first glance, the **Broken** cassette seems exceptionally short (only 6 songs on one side), but there is actually more to it. Much like the untitled extra song at the end of Nirvana's **Nevermind** CD, there are two untitled songs here halfway through **Broken's** apparently blank second side.

Of the songs on **Broken**, **Wish** and **Last** are the most immediately striking and noticeable. "Wish" deals with betrayal ("Wish there was something true / Wish there was something real / In this world full of you."), where as "Last" mocks love and human relationships ("My lips may promise / But my heart is a whore / This isn't meant to last / This is for right now").

The clever interplay and alternation of music and lyric in these songs add to the piercing hatred and nihilism expressed through the lyrics, often punctuated with colorful language.

From here on, the hatred grows and becomes more of an assault on the listener's senses. In some songs (**Happiness In Slavery**, **Gave Up**) even the vocals become defiled as Reznor's voice is filtered through various devices, dehumanizing it and garbling it hideously. This adds yet another dimension to Reznor's painful singing style, which alternates between a talk-singing dry rasp and a piercing squeal of anguish.

This is, after all, is industrial music, and is not meant to be pretty. It is meant to be cold and merciless, all whirring and grinding machines with the human voice almost lost in the clamor of a mechanized world. As Reznor croaks in **Happiness In Slavery**, "Stick my hands through the cage / of this endless routine / Just some flesh caught / in this big broken machine."

- Tim Peterson



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GOOD AS I BEEN TO YOU

BOB DYLAN

rating: * * * *

Bob Dylan has experimented with many styles of music in the past, among them such extremes as gospel and heavy metal. But none of his excursions into other styles have been nearly as honestly beautiful and affecting as his own unique mixture of folk, country, and blues.

At the peak of his popularity in the 60's, he was singing this music as the personification of a generation. He was an outlaw, yet people adopted him as their own. Since then, Dylan's folkie throne has been usurped by younger and more radical musicians, and the records he now produces are not aiming as much to change society or please audiences. Instead, his more personal recent recordings are alienating to listeners, as if he is trying to find peace within himself through his music's solitude.

This has led to his fall in popularity in the 80's. His last effort, *Under the Red Sky*, for example, was mediocre and sloppily made, and could not be saved even by the hordes of guest musicians who played on it. Following that, people were trying to decide whether his appearance on the 1991 Grammy awards was deep and powerful, or just plain embarrassing. All this is mainly because Dylan, at 51 years of age, is unsure how to approach the younger generation, and to a certain extent doesn't care.

So this time, Bob goes back to his folk roots, which is by far what he does best. The thirteen songs on *Good As I Been To You* are cover versions of old folk standards. A few minor adjustments have been made ("Frankie and Johnnie" is now "Frankie and Albert"), but otherwise these charming

folk tunes have been left untouched. This is a one man album, with no backing instruments whatsoever. Only Dylan's dexterous acoustic guitar playing and plaintive harmonica add color to the stark but comfortingly familiar musical landscapes presented here. And with new arrangements by Dylan, these songs shine in their startling simplicity. After all, what other "classic rock" superstar would dare to make a purely honest acoustic album like this one? The message with Dylan is and always has been: expect the unexpected.

On this new album, Dylan seems almost like his old self again, soulfully croaking out great tunes in his startlingly rough, nasal voice. Some of his best moments here are in the songs *Blackjack Davey*, *Diamond Joe*, *Sittin' On Top Of the World* in a modified twelve bar blues format, and the Burl Ives tune *Froggie Went A Courtin'*. The title of the album comes from a line in the song *You're Gonna Quit Me*, a laid back rendition of the blues-flavored folk melody. This is another example of Dylan's chameleon-like adaptability, which has been demonstrated time and time again. Even on his historical tours with the Grateful Dead and Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers, he could adapt and hold his own. This is the sign of one satisfied and comfortable with his craft.

It has been said of this folk hero, "He would not be Dylan if he did not make us constantly fear the worst." Well, it looks like this time we were pleasantly surprised.

- Tim Peterson

Stage

A Shining Star Behind The Scenes at G.H.S.

by Michael Fournier

Numerous changes have occurred this year in the G.H.S. Drama Club. However, there is at least one constant, Amanda Zehnder.

Senior Amanda Zehnder has participated in the G.H.S. Drama Club since her freshman year. Amanda's interest in drama began in eighth grade, where she played violin in the pit orchestra for the performance of "Annie Get Your Gun" in her home town outside of Chicago. Here at G.H.S., she has been stage manager for numerous productions such as "A Witness For The Prosecution," "A Fatal Combination," "Cheaper By The Dozen," "Curtain Going Up?" and "Dedicated To The End."

This year, however, Amanda is the Production Stage Manager. She is in charge of all the assistant stage managers. A stage manager is one who is in charge of makeup, costumes, props, and the rest of the tech crew.

Amanda is planning to minor in theater in college. She feels that theater is the best form of performing art, because it includes all other forms, such as music, dance, singing, and many others.

A good stage manager is a rare thing to find on the high school level. The G.H.S. Drama Club has indeed found this in Amanda.

ACTUAL GOOD THEATER AT GHS

Let's see here. Of the cast of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, just how many are on the newspaper staff? Thomas Hine (Oberon) is our ex-managing editor, Michael Fournier (Bottom) is our lay-out editor, Anne Clampet (Egeus) is our business manager, Damian Beurer (Demetrius) is our head cartoonist, and Chris Comerford (Theseus) is our new managing editor. Several other cast members are staff writers (some in my department) making a significantly large overlap of the two groups. Now I have to supposedly honestly review the play. And while I'm giving it a good review, let me proceed with caution.

First, I'll speak about the set, which was quite impressive. John Frink's abstract set was both mysterious and welcoming, wonderfully catching the whimsical, enchanting elements of the play.



Todd Alan Bires did a superb job of lighting. The already top-quality set was helped immensely but the moody, yet bright effects. The use of the strobe light was somewhat cliched, but nonetheless effective. It worked especially well with the ex-hippie parents in the audience. I overheard a conversation that went like thus: "Oh, wow! Far out, man! Hey- hey, don't Bogart that joint, man!--Wait, back to the present.-Bring me my Gucci wallet."

The sound was the production's biggest problem. Loud and grating at the front of the house and unheard at the rear, it was truly disappointing. Even with limited resources, I'm sure something better could have been achieved.

And now for the cast. Thomas

Hine, famed veteran to the GHS stage, played Oberon. On Friday, he had some trouble with his voice at the beginning of the first act, but soon bounced back and proved a natural. Alley Nedeu's Titania sometimes lacked vulnerability but was impressive.

Marc Bousquet was a standout as Lysander, one of the four lovers. Filling the role with schlemiel-esque heroicism, he filled it beautifully. Damian Beurer's Demetrius lacked emotional depth, but he had the facial expressions and physical gags down perfectly. Cheryl Greenberg had some trouble communicating an individual identity for Hermia, but her use of poetic meter was impressive. Especially memorable, was Meg Peck, who gave perhaps the best performance of the play. Both laughable yet genuinely tragic as Helena, she gave the play a singular personality, which it needed.

Also, Chris Comerford and Joy Bonneau were fine as Theseus and Hippolyta. Jeff Snyder was physically appropriate as Puck. And, Mike Fournier had moments of comic brilliance as Bottom, but sometimes the heavy number of props piled on him seemed to drown him.

New director Linda Pilz did a very professional job. She has worked as an assistant on Broadway, and it showed.

So, uh, do I still have a job?

-Trey West



The Powers That Be

Norman Lear is known for his controversial shows. I'm sure everyone remembers "Archie Bunker" and "The Jeffersons." Mr. Lear has developed yet another controversial, yet extremely hilarious show. It is called, "The Powers That Be."

This show stars John Forsythe as Senator Bill Powers, a distinguished and powerful Senator. Senator Powers seems as though he runs things, but they are really run by his wife, Margaret (Holland Taylor). Margaret is one of those people who has to be in the "in" crowd. In one episode, Margaret tries to become friends with First-Lady-Elect, Hilary Clinton, but winds up accidentally poisoning her. (This episode was taped on election day, and Norman Lear took a big chance predicting Bill Clinton the winner.)

Other characters on the show are equally funny. Caitlin (emmy-award winning Valerie Mahaffey) is the daughter of the Senator. She is a recovering anorexic and a spoiled brat, even though she is an adult. Caitlin is married to Theodore, (Peter MacNichol) a Congressman who is a manic-depressive. He tries to kill himself in just about every episode. They have a son named Pierce (Joseph Gordon Levitt). He is just about the only normal person in the whole cast.

In the Senator's office are the Senator's assistants, Jordan and Bradley. Bradley (David Hyde Pierce) is a bumbling wanna-be who sucks up to the Senator big time. Jordan (Eve Gordon) on the outside looks like a hard working business woman trying to get ahead in her career, but really she is having an affair with the Senator.

Also in the cast is Sophie (Elizabeth Berridge). She is the Senator's illegitimate child from New Jersey. Margaret doesn't like her, but the Senator does, so she works with him. Last, but certainly not least, is my favorite, Charlotte, the maid (Robin Bartlett). She is very loyal and a hard worker, but she almost left because she is in love with a married man, Theodore. Theodore says he is in love with her, but if Catlin ever found out she would kill him and Charlotte.

In my opinion, "The Powers That Be" is the best new show of the season. It was on during the last season, but only for about three weeks.

If by any chance, you are home on a Saturday night, watch "The Powers That Be." If not, tape it. It is an extremely funny show, and I know everyone will like it. It airs Saturday nights at 8:30 on NBC.

-Anne Clampet

Damian Beurer, Meg Peck, Marc Bousquet, and Cheryl Greenburg in "A Midsummer Night's Dream"

AIDS: How Much Do You Know?

by Alison Thomas

AIDS is a worldwide problem that more and more people are facing each day. AIDS stands for Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. It is a disease that impairs the body's immune system. It is caused by the HIV virus (Human Immunodeficiency Virus). HIV damages cells in the immune system, weakening the body's ability to fight off infections and diseases.

AIDS is the sixth leading cause of death among 15-24 year old people and there is no cure. Twenty percent of AIDS victims are in their twenties and, because the disease takes 5-10 years to develop, these people could possibly have contracted HIV in their teenage years.

AIDS is transmitted through blood, body fluids and semen, not through kissing or casual contact. Intravenous drug users and sexually promiscuous people are at the highest risk of catching this deadly disease.

Abstinence (refraining from sex) is the only sure way of not contracting AIDS through sexual contact. Aside from abstinence, proper use of latex condoms with nonoxyl-9 lubrication provides the best protection against HIV.

The number of teenage AIDS cases doubles each year, students should be careful and think twice before putting themselves at risk.

The Secret War

by Seema Shah

It's often said that people wage war on the environment, but they don't realize this popular metaphor is literally true. What makes this crime even worse is that the earth has no power to fight back.

Yes, I am speaking of the military. The militaries of the world are the most destructive to our earth. Most wars that are waged are for the rights to some natural resource, but in the process of gaining access to this resource countless others are destroyed in a self-perpetuating cycle.

The most familiar images of this destruction are of huge black oil slicks, the uncontrolled burning of oil wells, and the smoke-blackened desert from the Gulf War. The Gulf is still contaminated, the oil lakes remain uncleaned, and little has been done to rectify this situation. The bombing of Iraq's electrical system caused widespread disruption of sewage and other critical systems, polluting water supplies, and spreading disease. Heavy military vehicles have dug up and packed down the desert sand that was once teeming with life that, lacking water, will take years to recover.

Even in peace time though, this type of waste and pollution still occurs. Take our military's insatiable appetite for land. One percent of the land worldwide is in direct use of militaries. The military is responsible for more than two-thirds of the American use of CFC-113, an ozone-depleting chemical.

Though the Pentagon is trying to move away from its use, progress is slow due to the government's unwillingness to fund this conversion. Michael Renner of Worldwatch Institute estimates that the militaries of the world use up as much energy as Japan, approximately six percent of the world's energy consumption. The F-16 fighter plane burns more fuel in one hour, and an aircraft carrier more in seven minutes than the average American motorist does in a single year.

There is also a great deal of nuclear contamination attributed to the military. Nuclear testing has spread radioactive isotopes the world over; so much so that in some places native

STRETCH, THE NEW SECURITY GUARD

by Aaron Edwards

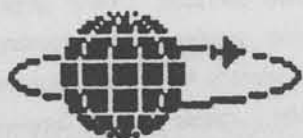
It was 10:15 in the morning, I was tired and I wanted to go home. I was walking briskly through the upper parking lot, looking for my car. Suddenly I caught a glimpse of something out of the corner of my eye. It looked like the figure of a man.....it was Stretch! I ran to my car and started fumbling with my keys. Cold sweat started to dampen my furrowed brows. It was no use. Before I was even able to open the door, Stretch was by my side asking me for my pass. I was busted. Stretch claims another.

The new GHS security guard is Roger Kufra. But he is affectionally known by the students as "Stretch". And be forewarned; he is for real.

Am I bitter about the efficiency of the new GHS security guard? It doesn't make life any easier, but I'm not bitter. I think the new security guard deserves a lot of credit.

Last year's security guards were terrible. It was easy to get away with things. All one had to do was befriend the guards. You could talk to them during free, say hi to them in the morning, that sort of thing. Stretch, on the other hand does not have any of these "friends". He always has a happy "hello" for you in the morning, but it won't stop him from nailing you on your way to McDonald's for lunch.

Before you condemn the new security guard for being so strict, acknowledge the fact that he's a man doing his job. A good worker is hard to find these days. Stretch fits that bill.



inhabitants have been forced to leave. Pollution from test sights, military nuclear reactors, warhead assembly plants, and unsafe waste sights is creeping into our water and air. Not enough experimentation and research has been done to find safe methods of disposing of nuclear waste. Nuclear "hot spots" will threaten our health for years to come.

A nuclear or toxic hot spot is a place where hazardous waste contamination poses a health threat. According to the Pentagon's Environmental Restoration Program, 17,482 toxic hot spots have been found in the 1,855 domestic installations.

So, what has been done to rectify these problems? Due to public opinions, the world's militaries are working to improve the situation. But progress is slow. Several years ago, the Senate passed the Strategic Environmental Initiative. This is a proposal to fund the military to release environmental data and do environmentally useful work. After a long delay, the first project proposed by the Pentagon under SEI was, ironically to find a safer way to produce plutonium triggers for nuclear weapons. At the United Nation's conference on the Environment and Development at Rio, great lengths were successfully taken to keep the military off the agenda.

Still, we don't know as much as we should about the military's environmental crimes. They cite "national security" to avoid the issue. In many countries, the military is exempt from following environmental laws. In the United States most environmental laws contain a clause excusing the military in national emergencies.

If all the world's militaries obeyed the same environmental laws, think how much more productive and peaceful we all would be.

X Marks the Spot

by Rashaan Williams

Well, the movie, "Malcolm X" is out and everybody and everybody's mother wants to become a disciple of Malcolm X. People are buying the hats and T-shirts, and everyone says they've read the book. Most of all, suddenly, no one likes pork. But, I've found that a lot of people do not know what Malcolm X represents other than commercial memorabilia. Hopefully, the movie changed some of that. GHS sophomore O'Neal Smith agrees. "Hopefully it (the movie) will teach people more about his ideas, and people will actually know who he is and what he believed in, instead of wearing hats and T-shirts showing his name and not knowing a damn thing about him." There are, indeed, many questions about the man. Was he "anti-white?" Was he against women? Was he a violent man? If you say yes, you do not fully understand what Malcolm X stood for.

To understand what Malcolm was all about, it is necessary to look at his history. Malcolm X, born Malcolm Little, was born in Omaha, Nebraska. His father, a Baptist minister, was beat in the head in with a hammer and tied to railroad tracks by Klansmen when Malcolm was just eight. Three years later, he and his siblings were placed in foster homes, and his mother in a mental institute because she was 'not mentally capable of taking care of her children'. I think his messed up childhood resulted in his later negative attitude towards white people.

Malcolm stayed in the foster home for a while, and then he was sent to reformatory school. When he got older, he moved to New York where he became a drug addict, pimp, and a thief. He was convicted for burglary and spent eight to ten years in prison. While there, he was introduced to the teachings of the so-called "honorable" Elijah Mohammed.



Who's Who at GHS

by Shannon Carnemolla

Have you ever walked down a GHS hallway and seen an adult who obviously works here, but whom you don't know? In this article one of the many will be introduced to you. His name is Bill Weinberg and he is a custodian at GHS.

Bill will have been working at GHS for five years as of May. If you ever see a man of medium build with a black mustache and curly black hair with a hat, that is Bill. He enjoys working at the school and interacting with the students. His only complaint is that students sometimes deliberately break things. He finds that 98% of the students are pretty awesome with the other 2% needing help. Out of that 2%, he told me, only .5% are really troublesome. Although he hasn't learned any deep dark secrets about anyone in the school, he does learn about school life from the students.

When Bill is not working, this single man enjoys the outdoors. He loves fishing and camping, saying that it's a great way to escape reality.

If you do see Bill in the hallway, go and say hello. He's a great guy and would love to talk to you.

XXXXXXXXXXXX

After he got out of jail, he became one of the Nation of Islam's most outspoken ministers. He single-handedly came up with the idea for a Muslim newspaper and set up thousands of temples across the country.

Later, things got tough for Malcolm. Not only did some of his Muslim brothers begin to get jealous of him, but he discovered his idol, Elijah Mohammed, had had a number of children by young Muslim women all over Chicago. Then Malcolm was silenced by Elijah Mohammed for making an unauthorized comment on President Kennedy's assassination. So Malcolm started his own organization, the Organization for Afro-American Unity, shortly before he was killed in 1965.

First of all, Malcolm X was not "anti" anything. As a matter of fact, after he made his pilgrimage to Mecca, he changed his opinion of white people and apologized for it. Before he went to Mecca, he was not "anti-white", just "pro-black." He was just adamant about black people getting their fair share. And Malcolm X was never "anti-woman", but he believed one had to be a little hard on the woman because they had to support their men. Finally, Malcolm X was never a violent man. Anyone who has ever seen the film or read Alex Haley's biography will see that he was not very violent, but rather believed in fighting fire with fire.

During the holidays, those students who have not seen this film may want to. Many students may learn about a previously unknown historical figure, and black students, specifically, may discover the impact he has had on their lives because his message was directed to them.

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"To understand what Malcolm was all about, it is necessary to look at his history"



(TOP): GHS TEACHER MRS. BLAIN'S PHYSICS CLASS AND MRS. GOODWIN'S THIRD GRADE CLASS "BRIDGE" THE GENERATION GAP

Hurricane Andrew: A Look Back

by Doug Tracy

Every time I take a look at the plane tickets on my desk I'm reminded of the time my Boy Scout troop went on a high adventure sailing trip in the Florida Keys. The tickets remind me of the sailing trip because it was our ride home from one of the longest vacations I've ever taken.

On the trip I was accompanied by Ben Weir, Ross Feldmann, Marc Andryuk, Eddie Smith, Mr. Smith, and my dad. The trip started on Thursday morning. Friday night we stopped sailing to go to Key West to bathe and sleep. Saturday we started our two days of sight-seeing. What was to be a pleasant day of sight-seeing turned out to be a nightmare.

Our captain, Skip, thought that the storm wouldn't interrupt us, but he was wrong. We knew that the hurricane was forming but we didn't know where it would be heading. When we did get the warnings, all of us Scouts were out sight-seeing in Key West. We were rounded up and put on to Skip's boat. We took off from Key West for a four-hour sail, to get as far away from the storm's destruction path as possible. We had to stop for the night, because it was too dark to sail. We were trying to get closer to Sea Base, the place where the whole trip was organized. That was Saturday. Sunday was to be the longest day of my life.

When Skip's radio alarm sounded it was 6:00 a.m. Sunday morning August 23, 1992. Skip ordered us to get up, pack, and get ready to leave. We did. All of us were frustrated because we were very rushed for time and tired from the meager amount of sleep that we got. At about 7:00 a.m. people from a power boat company, friends of Skip, came to the sailboat. They took us, and our stuff, to the shore.

From there the Sea Base employees took us, by van, to Sea Base for further instructions. There we waited for three hours in the torturous heat. After that we finally took off for the shelter which was about 100 mile away. Since all of the Florida Keys were being evacuated, there was a major traffic jam for a few miles.

After several hours of driving in the unbearable heat, with ten other people in the van with me, the van arrived at the

shelter, Florida International University. There, we had to fill out forms so that they would know who to call in case of an emergency. That took about an hour and a half. I was so tired of waiting that I was about to kill someone out of sheer boredom.

We gathered our stuff and walked to the fourth floor of the immense concrete building. In the hall we tried to rest from our tiresome day. An hour or so later, just as I was about to fall asleep, we were told by the Red Cross that we had to move. We were moving to one of the windowless classrooms because the hallway windows might shatter and shards of glass might get blown around, in the building, during the storm.

In the classroom there was a variety of people. They were Hispanics, Blacks, whites, young and old people. In total there were about fifty of us in one classroom. Everyone was crowded in the tight classroom. People were laid down on the musty-smelling floor like wall-to-wall carpeting. In the classroom we could hear an assortment of noises coming from everywhere around us. I wanted a pair of ear plugs so that I could fall asleep, I was so tired.

At about 10:00 p.m. my troop was asked to move chairs, so we did. We moved chairs from the crowded classrooms to the giant stairwells, leaving plenty of room to escape safely. We did that so more people could get out of the halls and into the classroom, where it was safe. We had the help of most of the other scouts from the same trip, but from different boats. All the chairs were in the stairwells by 11:30 p.m. I, for one, was tired.

After moving the chairs we started to get settled down. Marc fell asleep around 12:00 a.m. Since Ross, Ben, and I knew he was a heavy sleeper, we started drawing on him, with ink. You can tell that we were really bored. Nobody, except Marc, really got any sleep that night. The other people in the room were scared from their homes and other valuables that could have gotten, and probably were, destroyed in the storm. I couldn't sleep because of the little kids making noise and the old ladies complaining about the conditions of the shelter. The old ladies had no idea they had gotten to the shelter.

When I finally got sleep it was Monday, around 3:00 a.m. I only got five hours of

sleep that night. That was the end of the day that took an eternity to end. When I look at the plane tickets I am reminded of that Monday because that's when my Dad made the plane reservations to come home.

Invasion of the Little People

by Seema Shah

It is not often that one sees 24 third graders walking the halls of GHS. It happened twice, however, on November 9th, and again weeks later on November 16th.

The reason? A cooperative learning effort between Mrs. Blain's physics class and Mrs. Goodwin's third grade class from Hopewell School. The classes were learning about bridges and other structures together by building popsicle-stick bridges and paper towers.

The excitement didn't end there, however! For the following month, students from both classes created storybooks involving bridges and other structures. The entire project culminated in a fun-filled two hours at Hopewell School on December 14th, when students of both classes shared their storybooks.

Having "bridged" the generation gap, students expressed a desire for similar projects in the future.



Interested in writing for the
Paladin?

We meet every Monday in Room
102

It's fun, you meet people and the
dental plan is great!

O, did I mention the Pizza on
Marathon Saturdays?

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HOROSCOPES



December

by Madame Rue

ARIES

(March 21-April 20)

This month your attention is focused on someone special. Even though your relationship with this person means a lot to you, so do your relationships with your friends. Don't try to spend every waking hour with this person, who (even though you don't want to admit it) might be out of your life in a couple of months. You could lose a life long friend.

TAURUS

(April 21-May 21)

You work hard this month in school, and teachers appreciate such devotion. Hint: start working on assignments the day they're assigned, eliminating last minute fluff jobs. Around the 24th, you come to a standoff. Don't back down, and you'll win in the end.

GEMINI

(May 22-June 21)

Tired of tripping over your shoelaces? You're headed for coordination. You hold a certain charm, use it to get what you want around the 21st. Midmonth you feel a little insecure. Try to get out of the house and "let the sunshine brighten your spirits, and the rain wash away your sorrows."

CANCER

(June 22-July 23)

You don't have to worry about your social life this month, your calendar is filled! Your leadership qualities are shining; use some of your great ideas and follow through! Your significant other is starting to be a little pushy. Communication and respect for each others' needs will help relieve tensions.

LEO

(July 24-Aug. 23)

Zip it, button it, lock it and throw away the key! You have a tendency to talk before you think and it gets you into some deep.....sugar. You have better things to do with your time than to spend it in detention. Around the 23rd you will let a clinging acquaintance know that you need your space.

VIRGO

(Aug. 24-Sept. 23)

"You must give to receive". Spending time with your family will get you what you need. A Libra teaches you how to relax with nature around the 22nd. Tedious homework makes you cuckoo this month. You don't overly mind responsibility. You like being reliable.

LIBRA

(Sept. 24-Oct. 23)

This month you need to be open to different points of view. "Be one with nature" and sort your problems. Someone close needs your companionship to dissolve his/her insecurities. Broke? You can be creative and thrifty at the same time. When in need of a gift, you can buy cheap picture frames, cut out magazine pictures, paste them onto the frame and stick a picture of you and that person sharing a fond memory. And if you celebrate Christmas, try making angels out of paper plates.

SCORPIO

(Oct. 24-Nov. 22)

Jogging daily has paid off big-time. You finally catch that special someone's eye. At the end of the month, your parents get anxious and depend on you to be there for them as they have been there for you so many times before. Beware of people wearing dog collars.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 23-Dec. 21)

This month is full of festive activity. Take part in the fun while it lasts and make new friends. Someone in your family is not paying enough attention to you. But around the 25th you accomplish something, making that family member grow proud of you.

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22-Jan. 20)

There is a new friend in store for you, but you have to make the first move and start a conversation. Your relationship with the

person you've been dating is falling apart. You would like to patch it up, but ending it seems like the best solution. You catch someone staring at you in class, and then he/she quickly look away, embarrassed. He/she has a crush on you!

AQUARIUS

(Jan. 21-Feb. 19)

Around the 27th a close friend needs encouragement, and will be there for you before the 29th when you need some sympathy. Towards the end of the month you need a much-needed break from work and should take a mini vacation; go skiing for a day; go to the mall with a couple of friends; or rent seven awesome movies and hang around in your boxers all day.

PISCES

(Feb. 20-March 20)

Your relationships seem conflict-free this month. But smiling and complimenting adults doesn't seem to be working. For once you'll have to do some honest work. Now's the time to concentrate on schoolwork. By the 30th, your significant other is totally devoted.

AUNTIE GREZELDA



Dear Auntie Grezelda,

I have this problem. My brother gave me a nickname that I don't like--let's say it's "Pudding." Now everyone sneaks up behind me and yells, "Pudding!!" I'm getting very paranoid and I think I'm going loony. What do I do?

Sincerely,
"Pudding"

Dear Pudding,

Well, it seems to me that if people have been doing this over a prolonged period of time you must be reacting quite strongly, there by encouraging their annoying behavior. That attention must have been nice for a while, but I can understand how it could drive a person crazy. When this happens again I suggest that if you can, just walk away and don't pay any attention to it. If you are truly fed up with it, you won't have the temptation to laugh. If you do as I have said, this deranged nickname will wear off in a month's time.

-Auntie Grezelda

Dear Auntie Grezelda,

I have a problem and I don't know where to turn. My best friend and I had a fight and now she won't speak to me. I've tried to confront her and make up, but she always avoids me. She's my best friend and I don't want to lose her. What should I do?

Distraught

Dear Distraught,

As they say, time heals all wounds. Give her the time to cool off. When she has, don't confront her, just do something sweet and nice, like sending her flowers with a little "I'm Sorry" card, baking her favorite dessert, or even sending her a tape in the mail with you singing "I'm Sorry" on it! Since she is your best friend, you should be able to think of plenty of other things along that same line.

-Auntie Grezelda

Dear Auntie Grezelda,

Howdy! Well, I was very reluctant to write to you. However, my friend suggested that I do.

Recently, another friend, let's call him "Otto", pressured me to drop some acid. Otto's other friends played numerous pranks on me while under the influence. Afterwards, Otto was sorry and drove me home. I forgave him, but

Wanda, my friend who wanted me to write to you, said I should no longer talk to Otto due to the fact that I "flirt with danger" whenever I'm around him. What should I do?

Signed,
Dropped-one-too-many-times

Dear Dropped-one-too-many-times,

Your girlfriend is completely right. Otto sounds like real trouble. When you fool around with drugs, you not only "flirt with danger", you flirt with death. You must have never read Go Ask Alice. That's a book about a girl whose was in the same predicament as you're in now. Get out of your relationship with this guy now, or the consequences could be too big to comprehend. (And read that book!)

-Auntie Grezelda

Dear Auntie Grezelda,

I have this problem. I really, really like this television show; I talk about it constantly and I watch it every day. I associate almost anything I hear with this show. My friends might even consider me obsessive. How do I get this under control?

Sincerely,
In space and time,
Al

Dear Al,

In my opinion, television pollutes the mind and is turning America's youth into zombies. From your letter, I can see that you fit into that category. While it is good to enjoy a show, you obviously are "over the edge." I think you should find another show on at the same time and watch it sometimes. It would probably make your friends a little happier, and yourself, too.

-Auntie Grezelda

Dear Auntie Grezelda,

I have this big problem. I am having a lot of trouble in my math class. It seems like I'm the only one. Please help me, I'm failing.

Sincerely,
-Failing

Dear Failing,

My suggestion to you is to get a tutor. Talk to your guidance counselor he/she will refer you to one.

-Auntie Grezelda

Need Help? Write to Auntie Grezelda. Place your letter in the newspaper box in the main office. Remember, only you can prevent forest fires!!!

If you never take risks, you might be lucky and never know it!